

Pictorial Map of the AMERICAN CONTINENT

featuring the Pan American Highway and showing some of the natural resources, scenic wonders, and points of interest

Pan American Highway, passable for automobiles

Pan American Highway, projected or impassable

Connecting highways in the United States and Canada

Scale of Statute Miles

0 200 400 600 800

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NORTH AND SOUTH OF OUR BORDERS

BYOND the borders of the United States, to the north and to the south, lie 21 nations, all members of the family of the Americas. Reaching from Arctic to Antarctic, the two American continents have varied climates and living conditions; great wealth in natural resources, industry, and agriculture; people with widely differing traditions, cultural backgrounds, and natural interests.

Though the Americas became known to the rest of the world less than 500 years ago, some of the highest forms of ancient culture flourished here many centuries ago. Throughout their history the peoples of the Americas have contributed much to world culture, to science and industry, and to agriculture. Still they are growing, robust nations that have scarcely begun to explore and utilize all of their vast resources.

THE PAN AMERICAN HIGHWAY



IN a few years the dream of a generation of Americans—North, South, and Central—will be realized. Their continents will be linked by the world's longest highway, and it will be possible to drive from Argentina to Alaska!

Already long sections of the Pan American Highway (heavy red line on this map) are in daily use. One third of this great international highway is finished and paved, and over three fourths of it is passable throughout the year. Construction is closing the gaps and making more and more of the highway suitable for all-weather driving.

The Pan American Highway was officially started at the Fifth International Conference of the American Republics at Santiago, Chile, in 1923. In 1925 the First Pan American Highway Congress, meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, organized the Pan American Highway Confederation to plan the new route in cooperation with the governments of the various countries it links. El Salvador became the first country to complete its section of the highway.

Construction of the road has been a long series of dramatic victories over nature. Jungles have been pierced, great rivers bridged, the Andes scaled. The leading civil engineers of the Americas have conquered equatorial swamps, landslides, burning deserts, and snowy peaks so that some day the motorists of two continents may visit their neighbors swiftly, safely, and in comfort.

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